

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 1129 – SB 1266

March 12, 2014

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Authorizes teachers and administrators to use, read, or post excerpts from the United States Constitution in a public school classroom, building, or during an event. Requires each student to be taught the foundational instruments, mechanisms, and values of American government. Requires a course of such instruction to be taught in all public schools. Sets forth requirements for such courses that shall be used. Requires local education agencies (LEAs) to report to the Commissioner of Education their compliance with the content of courses as set forth in this bill. Copies of their reports shall be retained in each school for access by parents and the public.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (014198): Adds language to the original bill that requires the State Board of Education and the Department of Education to postpone further implementation of Common Core state standards beyond those implemented as of June 30, 2013. Requires the Tennessee Diploma Project standards to remain in effect for the subjects not covered under the Common Core standards. Requires the General Assembly to approve any future implementation, alternation, or changes to curriculum in the subjects of science, social studies, health and sex education or academic standards other than English language arts or mathematics. Defines “Common Core State Standards”, “health”, “science”, “sex or sexuality education”, and “social studies”.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The Common Core standards are for the subjects of English language arts and mathematics.
- No change in state curriculum standards that have already been implemented.

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- New state assessments using the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness College and Careers (PARCC) tests will be implemented.
- The General Assembly will hold hearings, as needed, on changes to state curriculum or academic standards in the normal course of business.
- No change in funding for curriculum or state standardized tests.
- Any fiscal impact on state or local expenditures as a result of changing curriculum as it relates to the foundational instruments, mechanisms, and values of the American government and requiring such a course to be taught in all public schools is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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